Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 8 with the following amended paragraph.

Referring to FIG. 1, a system for implementing a dynamic planning method (DPM) and system 10 can include conventional project planning models 12 that generate a conventional project plan. Any one of the conventional project planning models 12, for example, DSM 14, GERT 16, Q-GERT 18, SLAM 20, CPM 22, PDM 24, Concurrent Engineering 26, Critical Chain 28, Overlapping Framework 30, PERT 32, and System Dynamics 34 can generate conventional project plan data 36. The conventional project plan data 36 is coupled to a data transfer processor 39 that formats the data to provide formatted conventional project plan data 39. The data transfer processor is coupled to a DPM data processor 40, in which the formatted conventional project plan data 39 can be altered and DPM project plan data can be added in accordance with this invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 1 with the following amended paragraph.

In generating the DPM project plan 78, the DPM plan processor 74 applies reliability buffers. Reliability buffers are time buffers as described in U.S. patent application no. [ ]10/068,087, entitled Reliability Buffering Technique Applied to a Project Planning Model, attorney docket number ~~MIT-087PUS~~MIT-087BUS, filed on February 6, 2002, incorporated by reference herein, and assigned to the assignee of the present invention. The DPM project plan 78 is described in greater detail below. Let it suffice here to say that the DPM project plan can be presented as a graph on a computer screen, including a plurality of time bars, each associated with an activity, and each in a proper time relationship with others of the plurality of time bars.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 7 with the following amended paragraph.

The DPM activity characteristics GUI 44 also incorporates a production type value 82. The activity production type value 82 describes the speed of an activity in relation to normal production rate for the activity. For example, the activity can normally require a duration value of two months, whereas it may be initially planned for a one month duration. This illustrative activity is planned having a fast production rate value. [,—]It will be understood that the activity production type value is also associated with an activity rather than a relationship between activities.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 28 with the following amended paragraph.

The DPM policy GUI 42 incorporates various policy data values 86, 88, 90, 92. Policy data values can include project policies such as manpower availability versus time values (i.e., a type of resource values 88), overtime and flexibility of worker headcount control values (i.e., a type of scope values 86), a buffering policy (i.e., a type of policies values 90), thoroughness of quality control values (i.e., a type of performance values 92), hiring time control values (i.e., a type of scope values 86), and request for information (RFI) time control values (i.e., a type of policies values 90). The buffering policy as used above should be understood to correspond to a policy that allows the user to apply time buffers, other than reliability buffers (e.g. contingency buffers), to a project schedule.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 2 with the following amended paragraph.

Management changes that can be contained within one activity will be referred to as having "internal" sensitivity (see e.g., internal sensitivity 330) hereafter, and management

changes in one activity that cause resulting changes in other activities will be referred to hereafter as having [-]"external" sensitivity (see, e.g., external sensitivity 332).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 16 with the following amended paragraph.

It is to be understood that when the project plan is updated by the entry of new project plan data, the duration value associated with some or all of the time bars may change. The DPM project plan may change accordingly. It will be further understood, that the time precedence relationship lead and/or lag values can change when the project plan is updated. The aforementioned U.S. patent application no. [ ]10/068,087, entitled Reliability Buffering Technique Applied to a Project Planning Model, with attorney docket number ~~MIT-087PUS~~MIT-087BUS, describes the changes that can occur to the various time precedence relationships as a project plan is updated.